

July 17, 2017

Lindsay B. Nickle 214.698.8093 (direct) Lindsay.Nickle@wilsonelser.com

Via email to Idtheft@oag.state.md.us
Attorney General Brian E. Frosh
Office of the Attorney General
Identity Theft Unit
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Frosh:

We represent Rose Harrison & Gilreath, P.C., a law firm in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina ("Rose Harrison"), with respect to a recent potential data security incident described in more detail below. Rose Harrison takes the security and privacy of the information in its control very seriously, and has taken steps to prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future.

## 1. Nature of the security incident.

On May 12, 2017, Rose Harrison discovered that one email account had been compromised as a result of a phishing email scam. Rose Harrison immediately began an investigation to determine what information may have been at risk. As a result of the investigation, Rose Harrison discovered that emails in the compromised account may have been inadvertently redirected to an unknown third party. After a detailed review of the potentially impacted emails, Rose Harrison determined that the redirected emails may have contained client information, including names, addresses, social security numbers, and financial account information.

# 2. Number of Maryland residents affected.

A total of 2 residents of Maryland were potentially affected by this security incident. Notification letters to these individuals were sent by first class mail on July 17, 2017. A sample copy of the notification letter is included with this letter.

## 3. Steps taken relating to the incident.

Rose Harrison takes the security of all information in its systems very seriously, and has taken steps to prevent a similar event from occurring in the future. In addition to our continued and ongoing use of a retained vendor to monitor and update our system security software, since this event, we have provided additional staff training and now require email passwords to be changed by each user every 60 days.

Bank of America Plaza, 901 Main Street, Suite 4800 • Dallas, Texas 75202 • p 214.698.8000 • f 214.698.1101



Rose Harrison is also offering potentially impacted individuals credit monitoring and identity theft protection services for one year, at no cost to the individual, through Identity Fraud, Inc.

## 4. Contact information.

Rose Harrison remains dedicated to protecting the sensitive information in its control. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (214) 698-8093 or Lindsay.Nickle@wilsonelser.com.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

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Best regards,

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP

Lindsay B. Nickle

Enclosure



700 Blue Jay Street Suite 1 Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 Tel (252) 480-1414 Fax (252) 480-1765

July 17, 2017

«Name» «Addr\_L1» «Addr\_L2» «City», «State» «Zip» outerbankslaw.com

#### Dear «Name»:

We are writing to inform you of a recent event that may have resulted in the disclosure of your personal information. We take the security of all personal information in our possession very seriously, and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this event may cause. This letter contains information about steps you can take to protect yourself and resources we are making available to assist you.

On May 12, 2017, we discovered that one of our internal email accounts had been compromised as a result of a phishing scam. We have conducted an investigation and determined that an email containing your social security number and bank account information sent to this email account was inadvertently redirected to an unknown third party. Since discovering this incident, we have secured the email account in question and have implemented additional security measures designed to help prevent an incident like this from occurring again in the future.

While we are unaware of any misuse of your information, we want to take as many steps as we can to make sure that does not happen. We are including information with this letter about steps you can take to protect yourself. Also, we have contracted with Identity Fraud, Inc. to provide the following identity protection benefits to you for one year, free of charge:

- Toll-free access to the Identity Fraud Inc. hotline at 1-866-4-IDFRAUD (1-866-443-3728) for questions you may have regarding this notification.
- Automatic Identity Protection, effective May 12, 2017 that includes \$25,000 of identity insurance
  and unlimited access to Identity Fraud Inc. certified fraud resolution specialists to help resolve
  any type of identity theft or fraud, whether arising from this incident or that may arise from
  unrelated events.
- One year of credit monitoring. In order to enroll in credit monitoring, you will need to go to <a href="https://my.identityfraud.com/enrollment">https://my.identityfraud.com/enrollment</a> within 90 days and provide the following code: «Code».

Please know that the protection and security of your personal information is our highest priority, and we sincerely regret this incident and any inconvenience or concern this matter may cause you. If you have any questions about this notice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James R. Gilreath, Jr.

James R. Gilreath, Jr. Rose Harrison & Gilreath, P.C.

## Additional Important Information

For residents of *Hawaii*, *Michigan*, *Missouri*, *Virginia*, *Vermont*, and *North Carolina*: It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

# For residents of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, and West Virginia:

It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the nationwide three credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a>, or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (you can find the form at <a href="https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports">https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports</a>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

## For residents of *Iowa*:

State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

#### For residents of *Oregon*:

State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

## For residents of Maryland, Rhode Island, Illinois, and North Carolina:

You can obtain information from the Maryland and North Carolina Offices of the Attorneys General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

# Maryland Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 1-888-743-0023 www.oag.state.md.us

# Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection 150 South Main Street Providence RI 02903 1-401-274-4400 www.riag.ri.gov

# North Carolina Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection Division 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001 1-877-566-7226 www.ncdoj.com

### **Federal Trade Commission**

Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20580 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsit es/idtheft

## For residents of Massachusetts:

It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft

## For residents of all states:

**Fraud Alerts:** You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via Experian's or Equifax's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three credit bureaus is below:

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to make a request to each consumer reporting agency. You may make that request by certified mail, overnight mail, or regular stamped mail, or by following the instructions found at the websites listed below. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. The consumer reporting agency may charge a small fee to place, life, or remove a freeze, but is free if you are a victim of identity theft or the spouse of a victim of identity theft, and you have submitted a valid police report relating to the identity theft incident to the consumer reporting agency. You may obtain a security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348 www.freeze.equifax.com 800-525-6285 Experian Security Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 www.experian.com/freeze 888-397-3742 TransUnion (FVAD)
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19022
<a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze/place-credit-freeze">https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze/place-credit-freeze</a>
888-680-7289

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.